

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the paragraph at page 41, line 13, to page 42, line 12, as follows:

As shown in Fig. 6B, in cases where communication is, for example, performed between the land-based terminal stations 1 and 2, voltages (or electric potentials) of the fixed terminals 43 and 44 of the electric power feeding line selector switch 4r-1 are detected in the voltage detecting circuit 51a to produce a monitor signal indicating a difference of the voltages (or an electric potential difference), the monitor signal is output to the monitor signal modulating circuit 51b through an analog-to-digital converting unit (not shown). More precisely, an electric potential difference between a line point A of the electric power feeding line 5 and an earth point B is detected from a prescribed divided potential difference determined by a series of resistors R1 and R2. In the monitor signal modulating circuit 51b, a modulated monitor signal is produced from the monitor signal and is output to the excited light source actuating circuit 52a. The excited light source actuating circuit 52a actuates the excited light source 52b according to the modulated monitor signal to make the excited light source 52b generate an optical monitor signal. The optical monitor signal is superposed on the optical ~~the~~ communication signal F1 of the submarine cable transmission paths 21 and 22 in the photo coupler 52d and the erbium doped optical fiber 52e and is transmitted to the land-based terminal stations 1 and 2 through the isolator 52f. Also, if necessary, the optical monitor signal is superposed on the optical communication signal F1 of the submarine cable transmission path 23 and is transmitted to the land-based terminal station 3.